



東風



TUNG FENG

香港東區扶輪社週報 THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

Last Week's Proceedings (1st June, 2005)

President Rudy welcomed our speaker, Mr Kenneth Tam and his colleague, Mr Raymond Chan from NextOffice. Dir. Jason also introduced his friend Mr Raymond Choi.

There was a special farewell to PP John Kwok who would be back to Oakland, California for 3 weeks, and farewell to Rtn Alex who would be back to Canada next week until September. PE Eddy would also be joining the HK delegation (about 80 Rotarians and spouses) to the Centennial RI Convention in Chicago between June 16-22.

Acting SAA Uncle Peter reported that the red box collection was HK\$800.

There was an announcement of boat trip on July 9 (Saturday, 4 pm departing from Queens Pier in Central District), hosted by IPP Henry and our members and their annes would be welcome to join [limit to 30 people, first come first serve]. Rotarianne Eileen would like to treat us for a seafood dinner thereafter.

Our speaker, Mr Kenneth Tam had been senior manager in a few major IT companies in Hong Kong and was a long time friend of President Rudy. Mr Tam gave a presentation of their business software product - NextOffice, an all-in-one solution for the small and medium enterprises.

Mr Tam explained the benefits of the NextOffice, based on open-source technology:

Open Source	Proprietary Software (Close System)
Right to modify	No access to coding
Open to all, now	Open to some, later
Serve the community	Purely business transactions
Service nature	Product selling
Co-exist with standards	Proprietary
Relatively low cost (freeware?)	Higher price

According to Mr Tam, the NextOffice was similar in functions and inter-operable as those in the Windows market, capable to open and save document and files type such as (.doc, .xls, and .ppt). It was said to be about 1/10th of the price tag of those comparable proprietary software products, as yet it was one single version to operate under multiple platforms such as Win98, NT, ME, 2000, and XP; and supporting five languages in English, simplified and traditional Chinese, Korea and Japanese.

The differentiation of the NextOffice product was in their simplified / traditional Chinese text conversion, their built in English and Mandarin voice dictionary, and text-to-speech capability, and their bar-code printing, etc.

Especially, the NextOffice was said to include a PDF file converting tool, being a useful feature to business people who needed to create and publish report, to distribute and archive document files for easy reference and research.(under read-only format).

Mr Tam explained that the origin of the open sources were contributed collectively by many individuals in the software community; and he took pride to explain that the NextOffice was built on those open sources and coordinated by the efforts of their local staff - an example of "HK can do".

There were quite a number of questions from the floor, interested to know if they could get the software from Shamshuipo PC shops; if it was compatible to their existing office document files, or if it was easy to use As usual, we presented the Mr Tam with his own picture in action, and thanked him for his interesting topic in our Rotary manners.

President Rudy reported that the next week program would be again on IT matters, inviting a speaker from a major technology company.

To end the meeting, we made a toast to RI coupled with the Rotary Clubs of the world.

Request from the Hon. Secretary

The 2005-2006 Rotary year club roster is going to press soon and all members are requested to furnish to our incoming Hon. Secretary the up-to-date information, such as name, classification, office and home addresses, telephone and fax numbers plus email address. Should

there be any changes in the existing roster, please notify the incoming Hon. Secretary, Rtn. Andy Wong by phone at 9093-0011 or fax at 2869-8389 or email awong@aatravel.com.hk

Your cooperation is earnestly solicited.

Rotary Information

Vocational Service Committee

In the 4 avenues of service, Vocational ranks the 2nd place after club service and obviously, it is considered most important in a Rotary club.

This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in their vocational relationships and in improving the general standards of practice in their respective vocations.

The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the vocational service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committees that may be appointed on particular phase of vocational service.

Vocational service seems to be a bit abstract and quite a number of Rotarians are not aware of its nature. Vocational service month falls on October each year. We shall not concentrate our vocational activities on the month of October but look for projects throughout the year, such as

- a) arrange a visit to a particular member's factory, The Hong Kong Observatory, The Hong Kong Airport, hospital or vocational school;
- b) Select the best driver of large transport organizations, the best serving nurse of hospitals;
- c) Select the best policeman or civil servant;
- d) The 4-Way Test in "Book Mark" form serves a good promotion of Rotary image which could be sent to school students in Hong Kong or the mainland.
- e) The recently successful project completed by the district of "Professional Excellence" should be attempted for another trial.

The above are just food for thought and there are many other means related to Vocational service that could be explored.

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Mr. Dickson asked his 4th graders one day if anyone knew how to put 2 holes into 1 hole. Since no one was able to answer the question, he told the kids to go home and ask their fathers. They came back the next day and still no one knew the answer.

"Look," said Mr. Dickson while holding his index finger against his thumb, forming a little "zero." "This is one hole, my nose has 2 holes, and I can put my hand over my nose and make my nose holes appear inside this other hole."

"Aaaaaahhhhhh," said the children.

The next day, Little Johnny stood up and said, "Mr. Dickson, my daddy wants to know if you know how to put 7 holes in 1 hole."

"Hmmm," he thought, "How can you put 7 holes in 1? Well, I'll be darned; I don't know how to do that. Um, did your father tell you how to?"

"Yes," said Little Johnny, "You take a flute and shove it up your ass!"

Photographs of our meeting

on

1st June, 2005





Our Speaker - Kenneth Tam



PDG Uncle Peter & Mr Kenneth Tam



PP John & PP Tim entertain our guest Mr Raymond Chan



PP Hubert, PP JL, Rtn Alex and Dir Andy



PP George, HT Laurence, PE Eddy, Dir Jason with his guest



Group photo of guest and members of HK Island East luncheon June 1, 2005

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